

A-level HISTORY

Component 1H Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855–1964

Tuesday 19 May 2020 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/1H.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the other questions answered.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

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Extract B

The Soviet dictatorship, as developed during the years of war and post-war 'High Stalinism', only reached its height after Stalin's death. In the 1950s and 1960s, culture continued to be subject to state censorship and artists could only perform or publish if they belonged to one of the party-run associations. Official culture centred on the principles of Socialist Realism, which were laid down in 1934 and rewritten in 1946 by Zhdanov. This style presented Soviet life in an idealised fashion as always joyful. A little deviation was at first permitted by Khrushchev, but the thaw soon passed into refreeze. Most of the great works of the era had to be published illegally abroad; some did not see the light of day in the USSR. Religious life in the USSR was kept to a minimum by systematic persecution. Khrushchev launched militantly anti-religious campaigns and the religious education of children was a criminal offence. Communism, in both Stalinist and post-Stalinist times, was driven by the serious goal of keeping itself in existence.

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Adapted from N Davies, *Europe*, 1996

Extract C

In cultural matters, 'social responsibility' was as important to Khrushchev as to Stalin. But the frontiers of what was permissible gradually advanced. Under Stalin, the Party had been exclusively concerned with defending established boundaries; the raising of intellectual questions had been forbidden. The policies followed after 1953 were hesitant and inconsistent. This stemmed from the difficulty of defining where the boundaries should lie and the meaning of any change. Authors of relatively harmless books were attacked, while others got away with critical discussion. The difficulties of the authorities were like those of army commanders, trying to decide whether it was necessary to take action against their 'enemies' in order to deter further attacks. In his personal tastes, Khrushchev was on the side of the backward-looking Stalinists. His frequent expressions of disgust when faced with 'modern culture' were reinforced by official warnings and clamp-downs. Large numbers of writers who took the opportunity to criticise the past or present found themselves personally disadvantaged and, in extreme cases, carried off to lunatic asylums.

Adapted from J P Nettl, *The Soviet Achievement*, 1967

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to the extent of cultural change in the USSR in the years 1941 to 1964.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 How significant were socialist and Marxist ideas in the growth of opposition to tsarist rule in Russia in the years 1855 to 1894?

[25 marks]

0 3 'Government under Lenin, in the years 1917 to 1924, was little different from government under Tsar Nicholas II in the years 1894 to 1905.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4 To what extent were purges and terror, in the years 1918 to 1941, a response to real threats to the Leninist and Stalinist regimes?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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